Hazardous Waste Operations and
Emergency Response
(Hazwoper)

Functional Based Elective – Air Station SAR Case

Notes for the Instructor

Most of these scenarios are based on actual incidents that involved USCG units or reflect situations that could reasonably occur. We changed some of the details but the basic scenarios are nearly identical to the actual incidents. We added some details to illustrate some of the hazards Coast Guard personnel will likely face in such incidents.

The PowerPoint slides that go with these scenarios contain instructions for the instructor. They are an abbreviated version of the information in this document. We encourage you to read this document and become familiar with the scenarios before using them in a class. We suggest providing class participants with a copy of the scenario and instructions from this Instructor Guide when you show the associated slide.

We encourage instructors to make these scenarios applicable to their area. To that end, we have left the names of the ports and the vessels blank.

Documents such as DCMs and MSDSs are as close as possible to the actual documents used in the incidents these scenarios are based on. As they say on TV, we changed the names to protect the innocent.

We encourage you to provide feedback to improve these scenarios. If you have suggestions for new scenarios please feel free to submit them.

Please make every effort to keep the focus of discussions on health and safety. Class participants will often want to expound on other subjects or bring up points that are not closely related to this subject matter.

Instructions for Activities

General This module contains a basic scenario with slides you can use to amplify on the basic scenario or make it pertinent to the local area.

Single Person Assign each class participant the tasks listed on the exercise scenario. Instruct them to read the scenario and develop a written list of the information the scenario requests. After an appropriate period of time, ask for a volunteer to read their list. When he/she is done, ask who has any other items to add. Facilitate a discussion of the different lists and/or different priorities. Maintain the focus of all discussions on health and safety issues.

Group Break the class into an appropriate number of groups (we suggest at least three people per group). Assign each group the tasks listed on the exercise scenario. Instruct them to read the scenario and develop a written list of the information the scenario requests. After an appropriate period of time, ask for a group to read their list. When they are done, ask who has any other items to add. Facilitate a discussion of the different lists and/or different priorities. Maintain the focus of all discussions on health and safety issues.

Options Have the participants write their lists on a white board or on flip chart paper to make it easier for the other groups to see during their presentations.

Impose a time limit on each activity. This will add stress to the activity and cause the participants to focus more intently on the task at hand.

Add an element of competition to the activity. If you impose a time limit you can also give an award or prize to the group or person who compiles the biggest list.

Air Station SAR Case

Situation

At 1130 on 15 December 20XX, Group/Air Station North Bend received a call of a sport fishing vessel in distress in the vicinity of Heceta Head Lighthouse in Oregon. Approximately 16 fishermen and a crew of 3 were on-board according to the ship's captain. The fishing vessel, the 55 foot ANNA CORRINA, was fishing approximately a ¼ mile from the rocky shoreline when it experienced an electrical fire in its galley. The engine failed to engage causing the fishing vessel to drift towards the jagged shoreline. The fire could not be extinguished causing it to spread to the rest of the boat. The captain said he ordered an "abandon ship" and life jackets were "hurriedly" dispersed to passengers and crew.

An HH-65 launches and arrives (see above) approximately 35 minutes later. The ANNA CORRINA has broken up. The helo crew sees persons in the water with orange life jackets on unable to climb onto the shore due to the severe surface conditions and steepness of the shoreline.

Situation	Approximately 700 gallons of diesel fuel is in the water. Several of the plastic drums are also in the water. Some are leaking an oil product. The survivors are in the middle of the spill. Boats from Stations Umpqua River and Yaquina Bay arrived in the vicinity but could not approach the shoreline due to the low tide conditions at the time and the rising seas from an approaching weather front.
	Weather and water conditions: water temperature: 55 degrees F, air temperature: 65 degrees , relative humidity" 40%, winds: 30 knots out of the west, 85% chance of rain with a thunderstorm alert issued for the next 4 hours. It is partly cloudy and high tide is not expected for another 6 hours.
Task	State incident objectives for this SAR case.
	Recognize the hazards present to responders (e.g., rescue swimmer) as well as the victims.
	Prioritize and evaluate those hazards.
	Recommend control strategies for the air crew.
	What immediate actions can the HH-65 crew take, if any? Should a rescue swimmer be employed at all?
	What other assets (e.g., Coast Guard or Private Company) can be used to respond to spill?
Instructions	Provide training participants with scenario using handout or powerpoint slides
	Discuss scenario with students.
	Provide other information if they request it.
Evaluate	*Recognize the hazards present to responders (e.g., rescue swimmer) as well as the victims.*
Suggestions	Vapor and skin exposures to rescue swimmer and to victims.
	Hypothermia/fatigue.
	Lacerations, head injuries and/or fractures for victims and possibly, rescue swimmer.
	Hazards to the HH-65 crew: Refueling issues, upcoming thunderstorms.
Control	*Recommend control strategies for the air crew.*
Suggestions	Brief rescue swimmer on hazards.